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DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION REACHES \$1M

ARKANSAS LOTTERY REACHES MILESTONE IN COLLECTIONS

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LITTLE ROCK – At the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery, we love to talk about our millionaires. Now, a million-dollar winner of another sort has emerged – the state of Arkansas. Before awarding players their winnings, the lottery is required to check for back taxes owed. (Back child support is also collected, but tracked separately.) And just this month, the lottery reported it has collected more than a million dollars in back taxes since its 2009 startup.

"At close of business April 12, lottery treasurer Tim Parrish reported \$1,000,621.18 had been collected in taxes owed and returned to the Department of Finance and Administration," Arkansas State Lottery Director Bishop Woosley noted. "Of course, we'd rather our winners not be in arrears, but when they are, we want to be sure and capture any amount owed to the state before any winnings are distibuted."

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

Since its inception in 2009, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has provided nearly \$700 million for in-state college scholarships to Arkansas students, more than \$2 billion in prizes to players, created more than 50 millionaires, and paid more than \$190 million in commissions to Lottery retailers. More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions and other expenses in Arkansas. In fiscal year 2016, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery had nearly 2 million winners every month – more than 2,500 an hour.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Visit <u>MyArkansasLottery</u> for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions -- and to join the free Play It Again™ Rewards Club. To hear winning numbers, call the Winning Numbers Hotline at 501-682-IWON (4966). To get help with problem gambling, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.